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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/501,447

09/02/2004

Augustinus Bader

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DAVIS & BUJOLD, P.L.L.C.
112 PLEASANT STREET
CONCORD, NH 03301

EXAMINER

DOE, SHANTA G

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1797

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/20/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/501,447	Applicant(s) BADER, AUGUSTINUS	
	Examiner SHANTA G. DOE	Art Unit 1797	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 July 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 42,52-56 and 63-68 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 42,52 and 63-66 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 53-56,67 and 68 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 July 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 7/09/2009 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 7/9/2009 with respect to newly amended claim 52 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

3. Applicant's arguments filed on 7/9/2009 regarding claims 53-56 and 67-68 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicant's argument that the 112 rejection should be withdrawn because there is adequate support in the originally filed written description for the pressure device exerting a three dimensional pressure internally on the cell was not found persuasive because the applicant directed the examiner to paragraphs [063] and [064] for such support. However, the examiner found that neither of those paragraphs mentioned a three dimensional pressure being exerted on the cell. Additionally, in view of the fact that the newly amended claim 67 fails to mention three dimensional pressure being exerted on the cells, the rejection is moot in view of the newly amended claims. Furthermore, see the art rejection below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

6. Claims 53, 56, 67 and 68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Christian et al. (US 5,267,791) in view of Winston et al (US 4,851,354).

Regarding claim 67, Christian discloses a device for raising or cultivating cells in a container-like receptacle which comprises a base (4); and at least one lid (2), wherein the at least one lid (2) is connected to the receptacle in a pressure-tight manner, and the receptacle or the at least one lid (2) is provided with at least one inlet bore (14) for one of the introduction and withdrawal of culture medium and oxygen (see Christian fig 1, and col. 3 lines 36 -54). Christian fails to disclose that the receptacle is further

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provided with a pressurizing means included within a structure of the receptacle for exerting pressure on the cells being cultivated within the device.

Winston et al discloses that it is known in the art for devices used in cultivating cell to have pressurizing means included within the a structure of the receptacle for exerting pressure internally on the cell, specifically, Winston discloses a bioreactor comprising a base, a removable cap, reservoir coupled to the base wherein the reservoir is filled with pressurizing medium to create variations in hydrostatic pressure beneath the base thereby exerting pressure on the cell attached to the base (See Winston col.1 lines 42- 57; col.2 lines 48 - 68).

In view of Winston, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to includes a pressurizing means within the cell cultivating device/receptacle of Christian as taught by Winston since Winston states on col. 1 lines 43- 45 that such a modification would enable the device to mimic or reproduce the natural mechanical environment of the cells being cultivated.

Regarding claim 68, the combination as applied to claim 67 above discloses the device as claimed in claim 67. The combination fails to disclose that the pressurizing means includes a movable film, plate or membrane arranged in the receptacle.

Winston et al further discloses that the pressurizing means includes base formed of polyetherurethane film which deforms to exert pressure on the cells (see Winston claim 2, col. 1lines 55 -57; col. 2 lines 67).

In view of Winston, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have the pressurizing means of the combined reference comprise a movable film, plate or membrane arranged in the receptacle as taught by Winston since, the substitution of one known means of pressurizing cells in a device for another would have yielded a predictable result of applying pressure to cell in order to mimic their in vivo environment.

Regarding claim 53, Christian in view Winston discloses the device as claimed in claim 67 wherein the device comprise a pressurizing means. The combination fails to disclose that the pressurizing means is formed of expandable elements.

Winston et al further discloses that the pressurizing means includes a base formed of polyetherurethane film which deforms to exert pressure on the cells (see Winston claim 2, col. 1 lines 55 -57; col. 2 lines 67).

In view of Winston, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have the pressurizing means of the combined reference be of expandable elements as taught by Winston, since it was known in the art at the time for pressurizing means associated with cell culture device to be expandable elements.

Regarding claim 56, the combination as applied to claim 67 above discloses the device as claimed in claim 67, wherein the pressurizing means can subject an interior of the receptacle with the cells to alternating pressure loads (see Winston col. 1, lines 50-57).

Claim 54 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Christian et al (US 5,267,791) in view of Winston et al (US 4,851,354) as applied to claim 67 above, and further in view of Hung et al (US 2002/0106625).

Regarding claim 54, the combined reference as applied to claim 67 discloses the device as claimed in claim 67 wherein the device comprises a pressurizing means. However, the combination fails to disclose that the pressurizing mean is designed as a cylinder/piston unit.

Hung (US 2002/0106625) discloses a cell culture device having pressurizing means wherein the pressurizing means is designed as a cylinder/piston unit (see Hung claim 37, fig. 1 & 3; para. [0057]& [0058])

In view of Hung, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have the pressurizing means of the combined reference be a cylinder/piston unit, since, the substitution of one known means of pressurizing cells in a device for another would have yielded a predictable result of applying pressure to cell in order to mimic their in vivo environment.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 42, 52 and 63-66 are allowed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SHANTA G. DOE whose telephone number is (571)270-3152. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Walter Griffin can be reached on 571-272-1447. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Walter D. Griffin/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1797